

HESSLE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1905.

HESSLE :
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HESSLE,

5TH FEBRUARY, 1906.

Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present my Annual Report for 1905.

During the year the general health of the district was good, and the number of cases of infectious diseases notified showed marked diminution. The number of inhabitants was considerably decreased during December, 1904, owing to the completion of the North Eastern Railway Company's extension, and at my suggestion, Mr. Gibson, the Council's Nuisance Inspector, undertook to take a census of the district, which has recently been completed, the information thus obtained has enabled me to calculate a death rate of 8·02 and a birth rate of 20·26 per thousand of population. The death rate in comparison with similar districts throughout England and Wales (which by vital statistics just to hand, shews a death rate of 14·4) is very low. According to the same statistics which shews a birth rate of 26·3, making Hessle's birth rate of 20·26 appear rather low. This may to some extent be accounted for, by the fact that during the last few years a large proportion of the increased population are elderly persons, also people in a delicate state of health, seeking a health resort. The Cottage Homes also contain over one hundred children, these conditions being more likely, while increasing the population to increase the death rate without increasing the birth rate proportionately, this in my opinion is to some extent responsible for the apparently low birth rate.

During the year 40 cases of infectious disease have been notified, viz. : 1 Small Pox, 27 Diphtheria, 9 Erysipelas and 3 Scarlet Fever, of these the case of Small Pox, 6 of the Diphtheria and 3 of the Scarlet Fever cases were removed to the Hull Isolation Hospitals, there was only one death from this class of disease, a case of Diphtheria.

On February 23rd I attended a Meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my Report for January. In that month 14 cases of infectious disease were notified, viz. : one of Small Pox, 9 of Diphtheria, one of Scarlet Fever and 3 of Erysipelas. The case of Small Pox occurred in the person of a prisoner arrested in Hull and brought to Hessle. He was at once removed to the Hull Small Pox Hospital, all contacts being re-vaccinated and other steps carefully taken to prevent a spread of the disease. During convalescence this man escaped from

Hospital before disinfection, and was at large some months. He was however, eventually captured and convicted before the magistrates.

Some cottages at "The Cliff" were found to be in a dilapidated condition, these received attention, the yards were concreted, new drainage and cesspool was constructed, and the whole premises put into a sanitary condition. During this month I met a deputation from the Hull City Council, re the water supply of the Charterhouse Cottages at The Cliff, which I had previously condemned. It was arranged to give them a supply from a pump about 30 yards distant, this water has since been pronounced pure by the public Analyst. On this occasion I again drew attention to the Houses having no back-way for the removal of their privy refuse.

In regard to the cottages at "The Cliff" mentioned above, the privy refuse previously disposed of by the occupants, was ordered to be periodically removed by our night soil contractor.

The North Eastern Railway Company who had built some cottages at the Haven without depositing plans, were ordered to make their system of sewage comply with our bye-laws.

On March 1st I attended a meeting of the Council. I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee on March 23rd. During that month there were 3 cases of infectious disease reported, all diphtheria, only one of which was removed to the Sanatorium, the others being treated at home.

I attended a Meeting of the Council on the 6th April, and on the 19th April I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my Report for March. 12 cases of infectious disease were notified, 1 of Erysipelas and 11 of Diphtheria.

Attention was called to the necessity for more frequent flushings of the sewers, it was resolved that these should be flushed weekly instead of fortnightly. Regulations were made for the disposal of garden refuse.

At this meeting I pointed out that in consequence of the large amount of storm water admitted to the sewers, a pumping station could be of little value unless such storm water was restored to its original channel, and as this appeared to be impossible, advised the Council to erect numerous air shafts,

special attention being paid to the initial ends of all sewers affording thus, a ready egress for otherwise pent up sewage gases. I advised also that the manholes which had been closed, should be re-opened for the ingress of air to provide a system of sewer ventilation. It was decided to erect 6 ventilating shafts to the initial ends of the sewer on the Hull Road.

At an adjourned meeting of the Sanitary Committee held on April 26th, the Medical Officer of Health and the Nuisance Inspector were ordered to enquire and report on the smells on the Eastern side of the district, supposed to come from the Saint Andrew's Dock Manure Works at Hull. It was resolved that the Night Soil Contractor should be provided with screw down top pails to carry night soil through those houses having no backways.

On May 25th I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee and presented my Report for the month of April, which was referred to a sub-committee. During the month only one case of infectious disease was notified, a case of Scarlet Fever which was removed to the Hull Sanatorium, the usual precautions being adopted to prevent any spread of infection. At this meeting, a letter dated May 19th, from the Local Government Board, was read, in reference to the Sewerage system, this letter was referred to the sub-committee previously mentioned.

Mr. Gibson reported on the smells on the East side of the Village, he had found that these arose from the fish manure works on the St. Andrew's Dock, and this nuisance was receiving the attention of the Hull Authorities.

The sub-committee met on May 31st to consider the Medical Officer's Report and the Local Government Board's letter respecting the sewerage system, when it was resolved that a copy of the Medical Officer's Report be sent in reply to their letter. I notified the Committee that I had sent the following letter to Dr. Parsons of the L.G.B.

Hessle, 29th May, 1905.

Dear Sir,

The difficulties in the way of a pumping station are so great that I do not now advise the Council to entertain the proposal, but rather by a combination of open manholes and air-shafts to obtain a thorough and efficient ventilation of the sewers. This is already under consideration, tenders have been obtained for the

air-shafts, and I am very sanguine as to the result of this plan, which I trust will meet with your approval.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) JAMES MOLINEUX.

H. F. Parsons, Esq., M.D.

L.G.B. London.

On June 23rd I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee and presented my Report, the only notification received in May was one of Erysipelas. The distribution of hand bills concerning the cleansing of sinks, gullies, drains, etc. had a beneficial result.

On July 3rd I attended a meeting of the Council.

On July 22nd a sub-committee accompanied by the Medical Officer of Health and the Nuisance Inspector, met on the Hull Road and decided on the positions of 6 ventilating shafts at the initial ends of the sewer in that portion of the district.

On August 3rd Dr. Swindells attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee on my behalf and presented my Report for June. At that time the district was very healthy, no case of infectious disease being reported during that month. Many complaints of foul smells in various parts of the village were made, and in every case these were traced to leaky gas pipes, which were attended to by the Gas Company.

The cleansing of the old brick-pond on the Hull Road was completed, many thousands of gallons of filthy liquid were pumped out, after which the bottom of the pond was cleansed and treated with quick lime in accordance with my instructions.

On September 26th I presented my Report for July and August, during these months the health of the district remained satisfactory, 3 cases of Diphtheria were reported and removed to the Hull Isolation Hospital.

With regard to the ventilation of the sewers I reported as follows :—

“ Referring to the letter of the L.G.B. in regard to the ventilation of the sewers, 6 air shafts have been contracted for,

and will be completed as soon as possible, you will recollect that I recommended the erection of 18 such shafts, and it was decided to erect them by degrees, the 6 on the Hull Road being the first. I think it would now be well to decide on the position of the next 6. I suggest they should be as follows :—

1	near the manhole at	Spicer's Corner.
2	„ „	Grove Hill.
3	„ „	Prestongate.
4	„ „	Davenport Avenue.
5	„ „	Tower Hill.
6	„ „	Trinity Grove Corner.

A sub-committee was appointed to decide on these sites, and it was ultimately resolved to erect the 6 additional shafts.

The one at the end of Davenport Avenue has already been fixed.

A letter from the L.G.B. dated September 5th, asking for a map shewing all existing ventilating shafts and the places where it is proposed to erect the 6 additional shafts ordered by the Council on August 14th.

It was resolved that the map be prepared and a copy supplied to the L.G.B. giving the information asked for. This was done according to Resolution.

On October 26th, owing to absence through illness, my Report was presented by Dr. Swindells. The health of the district was satisfactory, only one case of infectious disease was notified, a case of imported Scarlet Fever, which was removed to the Sanatorium.

The drainage at the National Schools, at Major Shaw's house in Southfield, at the Vicarage and in Tower Hill were found defective, in all cases owing to bad workmanship and inefficient supervision when originally constructed,—all the defects were made good ; taking into consideration the safety of the children attending school, the school was closed during a portion of the time the work was in progress.

During recent years the sewage from “Scarr's” shipyard, the gas works and cottages connected therewith, were drained into the Commissioners drain, thereby causing a nuisance, this sewer was diverted by constructing a new portion of sewer 12” sanitary pipes with all necessary manholes and safety valve, and made to discharge into the Haven, and is thus cleansed

twice each day by the tide of the Humber. The Inspector reported that the first 6 ventilators would be completed the following week.

A letter received from the Town Clerk of Hull, dated October 23rd, was read enclosing Report of the Conference on the notification and treatment of Consumption, held in Hull, on October 19th, and a copy of the resolution then passed to the effect that :—

“The various Sanitary Authorities represented here to-day, as also any Urban or Rural Council not so represented has recommended :—

- (1) To adopt a system of compulsory or voluntary notification of consumption, with a view of preventing the spread of the disease.
- (2) To secure the adoption of bye-laws preventing spitting in public conveyances or places of public resort.
- (3) To carry out a vigorous inspection of—
 - (a) All dairies and cowsheds for the purpose of detecting animals affected with Tuberculosis and
 - (b) Meat and other food supplies, and
- (4) To take measures as to the housing of the people, so far as regards the erection of new dwellings and the dwellings now in existence.

Sub sections a and b of Section 3 and Section 4 have always had the earnest attention of the Hessle Sanitary Department.

It was resolved to postpone the further consideration of the matter pending the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

On November 23rd the Report of the M.O.H. was submitted by Dr. Swindells. Only one case of infectious disease was notified, a case of simple Erysipelas requiring no comment, chicken pox had been prevalent.

The Sanitary Inspector reported that 4 of the ventilating shafts had been completed, and he believed a great improvement had already resulted. There had been complaints in connection with a cesspool and an accumulation of manure at premises in Southfield, the owner had agreed to make a proper cesspool and put the premises in Sanitary condition, this was done.

The following special report on consumption was presented :

Gentlemen,

I have for some years given the treatment of Consumption, from the point of view of public health, my earnest consideration, and at your request, I venture to submit the following observations :—

In theory, there can be no doubt as to the value of the notification of so infectious a disease, nor of the advantage of being able to isolate such cases as a protection to the community, by placing the individual under the best conditions for recovery.

But, in practice, the adoption of any complete scheme bristles with difficulties which might seriously hinder its effectiveness.

These difficulties, however, are not a reason for inaction, but only call for great tact and discretion in following out the objects of notifications so as not to injure or arouse the hostility of the sufferer.

Seeing that the sputum is the great means of propogation, the consumptive should always expectorate into a bottle charged with some germicide and should inhale some disinfectant for ten minutes, at least four times a day. A wide mouth four ounce bottle and a cheap inhaler with “creasol,” should be provided free.

It might be well if their use could be made compulsory, but I do not think this essential, as when their action was explained, people would readily use them.

The cost of the bottle and inhaler would be about 2/6. The cost of the creasol would be 3d. a month.

The initial step must, of course, be to declare it a notifiable disease, subject to the usual penalties in default of declaration.

By this means we should get an accurate knowledge of all cases of consumption under Medical treatment, all notifications to be accompanied by a Bacterial Certificate from the County Analyst.

From its position, and its well known reputation as a health resort, many cases of chronic consumption seek the advantages of a removal to Hessle from Hull.

While we could in no way seek to interfere with the liberty of action in this respect, I think it is the duty of a Sanitary Authority to see that this right of the individual is exercised with as little danger as possible to the community.

I am decidedly of opinion that their residence amongst us should be notified, to the advantage of the individual and the community, and placed under some form of official control. In this matter we might reasonably ask the assistance of the Hull City Authority.

So far I would advise the Council to adopt an independent action, but the cost of the independent provision of a properly equipped Consumptive Hospital would be so great as to be prohibitive.

The advantages of having such a Hospital are beyond dispute, if properly equipped, and the benefits should embrace a wide area and a large population. I advise that this part of the question be referred to the County Council with the expression of an opinion that the East Riding and the City of Hull should unite to provide a Hospital for the open air treatment of consumption on a suitable site.

Such a site should be as high as possible above the sea level, the surface and subsoil being perfectly drained so as to ensure, as far as possible, a dry atmosphere.

Such a site, readily accessible to the whole district, might be found on the Wolds, west of Driffeld.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MOLINEUX, M.D.

After discussing the above Report the Sanitary Committee decided to defer the matter for further consideration.

Since the above report, the Local Government Board have refused application of the Sculcoates Rural Authority to make Consumption a notifiable disease.

Owing to illness and pressure of engagements, the Council meeting held on December 4th was not attended.

On December 21st I presented my monthly Report to the Sanitary Committee, the health of the district continued satisfactory, only one case of infectious disease was notified, one of Erysipelas.

The Sanitary Inspector reported that 2 cottages in second Lane, owing to the lack of a damp course, were unfit for habitation. The owner was communicated with and informed that he must insert a damp course so as to render the houses habitable, failing which the houses would have to be closed for habitable purposes. This resulted in a damp course being provided, the houses now being apparently in a sanitary and habitable condition.

A nuisance at "Chasewood," Ferriby Road, was found to exist and was due to a drain from the adjoining house passing under the floor of "Chasewood," becoming blocked at the outlet, the contents were forced up through bad joints into the cellar kitchen of the above house. On representations being made to the owner of the adjoining house, a separate drain was constructed and the nuisance removed.

The drain above referred must have been put in surreptitiously some 8 or 9 years ago when the houses were built. I may further say that under the present system of inspection such a system of drainage would be impossible.

I attended a meeting of the Council on January 1st, 1906.

On the 24th January, 1906, I attended a meeting of the Sanitary Committee, and presented my Report for December, 1905. Two cases of infectious disease were notified, one being a case of Diphtheria in a child who had been attending school at Hull, from where a large number of cases had been notified, and there is no doubt that the child received the infection there. The other a case of Erysipelas occurred at the Lodge at the entrance to Tranby Park, this house has for some time been considered by me as unfit for a family, and it was decided by the Council to take legal steps to have the accommodation increased or to close the cottage for habitable purposes.

With regard to the cases of Erysipelas notified, these on investigation have proved to be cases of simple cellulitis, and in no way attributable to unsanitary surroundings.

I may inform the Council that the vital statistics are based on absolutely accurate information, the population has been ascertained by census and a table prepared giving an alphabetical list of all roads and streets, the number of houses, and the number of inhabitants in each, this shews that the number of our population at midsummer, 1905, was 4,738, at the present time the number of houses in the district is 1122, of which number 1033 are occupied, the 89 unoccupied are all in a sanitary condition and fit for occupation, the opportunities afforded in taking this census permit me to state the whole of the House property in Hessle is in good sanitary condition, but it still remains for the Houses previously reported as draining into the Commissioners drain, to be connected with the main sewer, or where this is impossible, to compel the provision of properly constructed cesspools, and Hull should not be permitted to turn any of their sewage into the Commissioners drain as at present. During the year 8 pig-styes have been closed, and 4 unsanitary cesspools, and one properly constructed one substituted.

I have pleasure in submitting a Special Report on Cowsheds and Dairies in your district, accompanied by a table shewing at a glance the names, addresses and numbers of Cowkeepers, situation of Premises, number of Cowsheds, their cubical capacity, number of Cows in each shed, and the average space per Cow. The same table also gives the source of water supply, the structural condition, the general sanitary condition, and remarks on the individual sheds where necessary. On reference to this table you will find that in your Urban District, there are 22 Cowkeepers occupying 36 separate Cowsheds, with 128·216 cubic feet of air space, and containing 155 cows. The water supply in only one case is from the Hull Corporation mains,—in all other cases the supply is by pump from the chalk stratum. I have had several samples in the district analysed at different times, which has generally been found to be of excellent quality.

I am glad to say, that generally, the condition of the Cowsheds is good, the only fault being in some cases, insufficient light and ventilation, but find no hesitation on the part of the Cowkeepers to comply with my request for more light and ventilation.

The milk produced is chiefly sold as new milk, in Hessle or Hull. In only a few instances is butter made, when the milk is “separated,” and the “separated” milk is used for

the feeding of calves, pigs, etc., so that dairies are very little used sometimes for the purpose of "setting up" a little surplus milk, but still there is a dairy in connection with each premises, which is generally well kept, in good condition and properly constructed.

The inspection of all Cowsheds and Dairies has every possible attention by the Sanitary Inspector and myself. During the past year 216 inspections have been made, and I find that any request made for improvements receive the necessary attention at the hands of the Cowkeepers. I may also state as a result of inspection, that special care is exercised in the cleansing of all utensils used in connection with the distribution of milk and the making up of butter.

The taking of samples for analysis is left entirely in the hands of the East Riding Police.

Although it is not my intention to make comparison between one cowshed and another, beyond what is shewn in the table, I feel justified as an incentive to others, to state that the sheds at Hesslewood are extraordinarily well kept, and in perfect condition, have abundance of space, are ideal sheds for the purpose of keeping cows, and might be copied by others to their own advantage, and to the benefit of the public.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES MOLINEUX, M.D.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of			
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.	
Factories (Including Factory Laundries 16).	93	4	Nil	
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries, 53).	318	11	Nil	
Workplaces	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Homeworkers' Premises	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Total	414	15	Nil	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	4	4	Nil	Nil
Want of ventilation	3	3	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	1	1	Nil	Nil
Want of drainage of floors	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other nuisances	6	6	Nil	Nil
Sanitary accommodations {insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes	1	Left the premises.	1	Nil
Total	15	14	1	Nil

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 1. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and previous Years.

	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths under 1 Year of Age.		Deaths at all Ages. Total.		Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages.	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1000 Births Registered	Number	Rate				Number	Rate
1900	3700	80	21·62	10	125·00	49	13·24	..	..	..	49	13·24
1901	3863	83	21·48	8	96·38	48	12·42	..	..	..	48	12·42
1902	4214	102	24·20	9	88·23	26	6·16	..	..	3	29	6·88
1903	4614	119	25·57	7	58·82	50	10·85	..	..	3	53	11·48
1904	5413	87	16·07	10	114·94	59	10·89	..	..	5	64	11·08
1905	4738	96	20	3	31·25	36	7·59	..	..	4	40	8·44

Deducting death of one Visitor and one suicide, not belonging to the District, reduces the death-rate to 8·02.

Area of District in acres	...	...	...	...	2,111
(exclusive of area covered by water).					
Total population at all ages	} At Census of 1901.				3,754
Number of inhabited houses					885
Average number of persons per house					4.24

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Nil.	The Infirmary, Hull.	The Infirmary, Hull.
	Children's Hospital, Hull.	Infectious Diseases Hospital, Hull.
	Infectious Diseases Hospitals, Hull and Sutton.	
	The Asylum, Beverley.	
	The Sculcoates Workhouse.	

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 2. Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1905 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1900	3700	80	49	10
1901	3863	83	48	8
1902	4214	102	26	9
1903	4614	119	50	7
1904	5413	87	59	10
1905	4738	96	40	3

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 3. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year, 1905.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.						Total cases notified in each Locality.	No. of cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.				25 to 65.		
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.			
Small-pox	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Diphtheria	27	1	7	13	2	4	27	6
Erysipelas	9	...	...	1	2	6	9	...
Scarlet Fever	3	...	...	2	1	...	3	3
Totals	40	1	7	16	5	11	40	10

Isolation Hospital, The City of Hull Isolation Hospital.

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 4. Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.

Causes of Death.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Deaths in or belonging to Localities at all Ages.
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup. ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Epidemic Influenza ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Enteritis ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other septic diseases ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Phthisis ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cancer, malignant disease ...	7	...	...	...	...	6	1	7
Bronchitis ...	5	2	1	...	...	...	2	5
Pneumonia... ..	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Heart diseases ...	5	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
Suicide ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
All other causes ...	14	1	1	2	1	3	6	14
All causes ...	40	3	5	2	1	18	11	40

Included in the 40 Deaths in this table, is the Death of a visitor from Leeds, and the suicide of a stranger.

HESSLE URBAN DISTRICT.

Table 5. Infantile Mortality during the Year 1905.
Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	2—3 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	2—3 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes—Certified	2	2	1	3
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	1	...	...	...
Bronchitis	1	...	1	...
	2	2	1	3

Births in the Year (legitimate) 96. Population estimated to middle of 1905, 4738.
Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 3.

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1905.

Annual Birth-rates and Death-rates from the Seven Chief Epidemic Diseases.

	Annual Rates per 1,000 Living.			Infant Mortality, Annual Death-rate of Infants under 1 Year per 1,000 Births.
	Births.	Deaths from all Causes.	Deaths from seven chief Epi- demic Diseases.	
England and Wales ...	27.2	15.2	1.52	128
76 Great Towns ...	28.2	15.7	1.88	140
141 Smaller Towns ...	26.9	14.4	1.50	132
England and Wales less the 217 Towns ...	26.3	14.9	1.09	113

